



# NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### **Five arrested on drug charges after police investigate complaints**

Howard County police have arrested and charged five suspects with drug and firearm offenses after detectives investigated a series of community complaints about drug activity at an apartment in the 11900 block of Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia.

Jaron Lamar Rhodes, 23, of Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia, Jermaine Anthony Wellman, 19, of Brooke Court in Annapolis, and Tyon Damian Bailey, 22, of Vincent Lane in Baltimore have been charged with drug possession with the intent to distribute and numerous firearm charges.

Two male juveniles, age 16 and 17, of Annapolis were also charged with drug and firearm offenses.

In February police received several complaints from the community regarding the suspected use and sale of drugs at Rhodes' apartment. Detectives launched an investigation which resulted in a search warrant being served at the home where all five suspects were present on March 3.

Police located approximately three and a half ounces each of suspected heroin and crack cocaine, smaller quantities of suspected marijuana and oxycotin, paraphernalia, over \$2,800 in cash and two handguns. Detectives determined that this evidence was indicative of drug distribution.

The street value of the recovered drugs is approximately \$13,000.

Rhodes and Wellman are being held without bond at the Howard County Detention Center; Bailey was released on bond; each of the juveniles was released to the custody of a parent.

The police department encourages residents to report suspected drug activity by calling 410-290-DRUG. Callers may remain anonymous.

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